



de maximis, inc.

186 Center Street
Suite 290
Clinton, NJ 08809
(908) 735-9315
(908) 735-2132 FAX

May 15, 2009

VIA ELECTRONIC & US MAIL

Ms. Alice Yeh
ATTN: Lower Passaic River Remedial Project Manager
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
U.S. EPA, Region 2
290 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10007

**Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 24 – April 2009
Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA) Remedial Investigation/
Feasibility Study (RI/FS)
CERCLA Docket No. 02-2007-2009**

Dear Ms. Yeh:

de maximis, inc. is submitting this Monthly Progress Report for the above-captioned project on the behalf of the RI/FS Agreement Settling Parties (Cooperative Parties Group or CPG) pursuant to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (Settlement Agreement or AOC). The Progress Report satisfies the reporting requirements of Paragraph 42 of said Settlement Agreement.

(a) Actions which have been taken to comply with this Settlement Agreement during the previous month.

Meetings/Conference Calls

- CPG participated in calls with EPA on April 2, April 6, April 23 and April 30 to discuss EPA's comments on the draft Streamlined Problem Formulation Document (PFD) and January 14/15 Field Sampling Plan Volume 2 (FSP2) Workshop Agreements Comments, including crab tissue sampling needs for Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) and benthic sampling needs for the Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA).
- EPA LPRSA Project Team attended CPG Group Meeting on April 14.

Ms. A. Yeh
LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No.24 – April 2009
May 15, 2009
Page 2 of 3

Correspondence

- On March 31, April 8 and April 17, CPG provided correspondence to EPA regarding crab tissue sampling needs for HHRA (including EPA request for hepatopancreas-only samples).
- On April 15, CPG submitted the March 2009 Progress Report to EPA.

Work

- CPG continued data validation of analytical results of the Low Resolution Coring (LRC) sediment samples. Approximately 97% of the data validation task is complete.
- CPG continues to review data from the LRC program including sharing the data with the CPG modeling team.
- CPG RI/FS team continues to coordinate with the CPG modeling team relative to model set up, data support, and modeling goals.
- CPG continued work on the LRC Site Characterization Report which includes a description of the field activities, submittal of field records, analytical data results and presentation and summary of data validation results and outcome.
- CPG is reviewing the SIT-ECOM-SEDZLJ modeling code and initiated setup.
- CPG is continuing review of the 2008 bathymetry survey data and performing QA/QC on the multibeam/single beam data sets.
- CPG is modifying the Physical Water Column Monitoring (PWCM) program to consider data needs for Newark Bay.
- CPG is completing FSP2 QAPPs for Fish/Decapod Tissue (Fish Tissue) sampling and Benthic Invertebrate (Benthic) sampling.
- CPG is completing revisions to the PFD in response to EPA comments.

(b) Results of Sampling and Tests

- PDFs of the lab data packages and copies of lab EDD files that were received in April 2009 are being provided to EPA under separate cover. A Region 2 MEDD submittal of data validated in April 2009 will be provided as an upload to the PREmis web portal.

(c) Work planned for the next two months with schedules relating to the overall project schedule for RI/FS completion

- The CPG will continue to prepare the QAPP for the PWCM program.
- CPG will submit draft Fish Tissue sampling QAPP to EPA.

Ms. A. Yeh
LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No.24 – April 2009
May 15, 2009
Page 3 of 3

- CPG will submit the draft Benthic Sampling QAPP to EPA.
- CPG will complete the LRC data validation and submit a validated data set to EPA.
- CPG will finalize revisions to the RI/FS schedule.
- CPG will continue preparation of the LRC Site Characterization Report.
- CPG will finalize and submit to EPA the revised Streamlined PFD.
- CPG will continue preparation for implementation of the FSP2 Fish Tissue and Benthic sampling QAPPs in August.
- CPG will continue work on the setup of the SIT-ECOM-SEDZLJ sediment transport modeling component of the LPRSA/Newark Bay Modeling Work Plan.

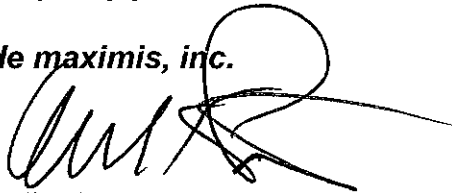
(d) Problems encountered and anticipated problems, actual or anticipated delays, and solutions developed and implemented to address actual or anticipated problems or delays.

None at this time.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Rob Law at (908) 735-9315.

Very truly yours,

de maximis, inc.



Willard F. Potter
Project Coordinator

cc: Sarah Flanagan, EPA Office of Regional Counsel
Stephanie Vaughn, EPA
William Hyatt, CPG Coordinating Counsel
Lisa Baron, USACE
Tim Kubiak, USFWS
Reyhan Mehran, NOAA
Janine MacGregor, NJDEP
Elkins Green, NJDOT
Laura Kelmar, AECOM